

Cost of Ore
and Freight
Treatment
with
15 cents
the
Columbia
River
Copper, 95¢
silver,
925 to 950
per Ton.

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

The
Paystreak
of
Ad. 60,
never
plucks
out in this
Paper.
Try one
before the
ad. 60 is
wakened
out.

Vol. I., No. 38.

Canterbury, B. C., Thursday, February 21, 1901.

\$3.00 Per Year.

CHAMBERLAIN BROS. TRIAL

Wm. Held for Trial Geo. Acquitted.

The announcement last week that Wm. and Geo. Chamberlain had been arrested in connection with the trial of a steered and came for much talk. The case was brought before E. J. Nevill, R.M., on Wednesday last week who was obliged to postpone the trial until Tuesday owing to a severe attack of illness. When court opened at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning the Court House was filled to the doors with spectators. The information was laid by Alex. Ritchie against Chamberlain Bros. of having killed a steer belonging to H. E. Foster, J. A. Hange and Hugh Macdonald. The case was brought by the defendants. The hide, two feet and the horns of the steer in question were not produced in evidence. A witness of the evidence as the case will prove of interest to ranchers and others in this district.

James Miller even said: I lodged a Chamberlain killed the steer in Stoddard's corral and helped him to hide. Head Mackay told Chamberlain to kill the steer.

W. K. Carter: I collected debts of East Kootenay Supply Store for C. C. Mackay. Took in this steer.

Joe S. Hart: W. Chamberlain told me he killed a steer in my corral about Jan. 19. Saw hide in corral before the hide was in the corral before a two-year-old hide, he brought from Alex. Timbuck.

James K. Kay, examined hide: I had a steer on right side of brand belongs to E. K. S. Store. — On left jaw a horse brand. These hides are not out, one on right side and two on left. The steer killed in the right side of brand. Hide on right side is large enough to have been a brand. Should say were made before this steer was killed. Steer 4 or 5 year old. Hide was over 2. Is a red horn.

Tomie Bodger: Saw W. Chamberlain taking a hide to Bruce's stable after New Year. There were two hides together. Think this is the one he brought.

Cuba Cameron, P. C.: Got this hide from Chamberlain Jan. 20. Examined the hide and horns were in this hide. This has been my possession since then.

B. Bodger: Hide is the same as I got out of Stoddard's shack and took to Alexander as directed by J. McKay.

Chas. Mackay: Did not own cattle. Two three brands: S. E. K. S. and another lately registered for Mrs. Mackay, a horsehide. Brand on this hide like Store brand. Two more of hide of steers in store business. Suppose Carter's evidence is correct. Mortgaged some cattle in H. E. Foster; think this steer killed by Chamberlain. Geo. Chamberlain knew the cattle were mortgaged and was generally known. Any man can be known. Mortgaged in will in force and past due. Have not been asked to pay new nor surrender cattle. Geo. Chamberlain leave to kill steer. Seems no difference between the one I told him and this hide. I told there were a steer, and the one he might kill. Have got beef from Chamberlain on strength of him getting a brand in, which was to be given to me. Think he knew this was purely on my account. Understood I had right to kill cattle for my own use under the mortgage. Do not think I would put it on a hide on right side. Hide does not correspond with those which have been put on, animal has been moved. Do not know if I had killed any steers after second. Do not know if I gave Chamberlain permission to kill this particular steer. Knew this steer was mortgaged. Was told I could have anything for personal use but not for others. Supposed I could tell anyone to kill beef for me. I told Chamberlain there were 3 or 4 brands on range between Horse Thief and Toly.

creaks. Took him about 4 months ago. He told me he had a steer in his corral about 10 days ago. Don't know how many times I talked with him, but asked if he got a steer; he said no but would later. I was to get meat up in value of steer. I made declaration in value of steer. [Declaration read and filed as exhibit—Witness made some corrections.] Would not swear hide could not be my small brand, saw this steer or his ghost at Toly lake about beginning of Dec., but have not seen him since. I also killed a cow. No arrangements were made about killing her. I was short of feed and killed her for my own use.

J. A. Hange: I gave Mackay no leave to kill by second mortgage in any way whatever. All cattle are covered by second mortgage. I believe Chamberlain knew of mortgage. He applied to purchase cattle last spring, referring to Mackay cattle. I said I did not care to sell. He knew I owned Foster's agent. I sold a steer to him under prior mortgage. Date of existing mortgage was Nov. 14, 1899.

H. E. Foster: Told chatted mortgage on Mackay's cattle, which is unpaid and unsettled. Never agreed to sell any more to do so. Had no dealing with them. Never gave Mackay permission to sell or kill any steer.

J. A. Stoddard, recalled: I got scalp horns and feet in my shack. Foster was in there. Did not deal with my curiosity. Chamberlain did not ask me to. I was doubtful about the affair. Wm. Chamberlain called me. He said he had a steer and said "I want to get some beef. I have a steer on the range and will you run down in and give me beef out of your place in place of this steer as I want to get beef." I asked what steer he had and he said one dark red, one black and white and one red horn. I told him I had only seen one of his on range. He said he had there two days ago and had seen them around the lake. I told him I only knew of one and described it as red horn. I heard out of, cross on right side of brand. He said he had a steer from Moyave. He said that was one of them. I told him I knew the steer well and would try and get him in. I hunted for him three days and did not find him. Next day Mackay had got about a mile of beef. Thought a case of steer until January. Called it in. Stoddard's corral. Told my brother I had a steer. He said he and the gun and we would kill him at 9:30 next morning and I would meet him there. On account of the trip to the lake, I asked Miller to go and get a brother kill, which I suppose he did and delivered beef to my house. I had conversation with Mackay on several occasions about this steer.

My brother J. E. Larmer at another, and J. Quilley and J. Lege killed steer on Mackay's account. He had got beef from me before this hide was killed. I saw the hide. I saw the steer well, which was branded. I saw it on right side and left ear cut off. I delivered the hide myself at Bruce's stable. I saw the hide myself at Bruce's stable, but it was not about the time of Xmas, nor as he says. Told me he had three steers. I knew X brand was the store brand. I know X brand was the store brand. Have known this steer for two years. I found it close to Stoddard's house, which was the first time I saw it after talking to Mackay. I was there when Stoddard killed because I drove him in alone and everything was handy.

H. Menden, E. Hanks, F. Larmer, and others, recalled: This steer was killed by Chamberlain, but as it was principally about conversations between Mackay and Chamberlain we omit it.

The Magistrate in giving his decision on the case, said that the evidence of Mackay and Chamberlain for trial at the next court of competent jurisdiction, trial was accepted at \$5000 Geo. Starker giving evidence as to the case. Mr. Chamberlain giving a like amount himself.

Noted at Canterbury, B.C., this 21st day of February, A.D. 1901.

ALL THE MONEY

What is the amount of all the money in the world?

According to the estimate of the director of the United States mint, the total amount of money in the world last year was \$11,620,000,000 of which \$1,841,000,000 was gold, \$1,818,000,000 silver, and \$2,000,000,000 paper supported by specie reserves. The proportion of gold has been steadily increasing for many years. In 1873 the figure \$1,290,000,000

A Rich Section

About 25 miles west of the Columbia River and lying between Toly and Horse Thief creeks lies a small area from which six gold large sized streams take their source, and are only divided once from the other by narrow mountain ridges. The streams taking their course from the north and flowing into Toly creek on the south are Goat creek and North Fork of Toly. These flowing northerly and being tributaries of Horse Thief are South Fork, McDonald, Boulder and Law creeks.

In the large basin, formed where these six streams take their source are located a large majority of the principal mining properties in the Windermere district. Commencing with Goat creek, on the Toly creek side, we find the Butler City, Matterson, Iron Horse and Trunkeeve groups. These properties show large bodies of galena, copper and iron, and have had a considerable amount of development work done on them; especially the Buttercup and Monitor, on which there is 40 feet of tunnel besides considerable surface workings. These properties continue to the summit of the ridge and pin properties owned by the same syndicate, situate on Copper mountain in the Horse Thief basin. In this basin are located the Phoenix and World Fair groups, the King Solomon, Headlight, Silver Island, Great Eastern, Hot Bog and North Western, Wilderness and Copper. These properties among these properties are the Phoenix and World Fair on which work has been carried on continuously since early May, under the management of R. S. Gault. These properties show three parallel veins from 8 to 15 feet wide; two of which have been developed on the surface by open pits and show an average of over 1000 feet. The third vein has been started to tap No. 1 vein at considerable depth and is in now nearly 200 feet and the vein is expected to be carried on day after day, showing quantities of high grade copper ore have been encountered in the tunnel for the last 60 feet. Samples of ore taken from the shaft are estimated to show the following results: Silver, 100 oz. per ton; lead, 25 per cent; and \$450 in gold. These properties are situated near the base of the mountain and are covered with a dense growth of timber suitable for all mining purposes, and a water-power capable of running the largest machinery.

Higher up the mountain, where the ridge is more exposed the hill becomes more rounded and is traversed by numerous small creeks or which run quivering up the mountain, and in many places show considerable depth in the step face of the ridge and continuing under a large glacier, which in a deep basin, forming the glacier and raises far above it over the west side of the ridge. At the foot of this glacier and directly below where these veins of copper disappear beneath the ice may be seen many tons of the ore carried down by the action of the ice, various sizes of copper ore may be found among the boulders, besides those commonly found in the crevices of the ice. They may be seen beautiful crystals of copper glacial carrying 70 per cent copper. To prove that these ore bodies continue for longer large pieces of this character of ore may be found far out on the ice, having been carried down from the steep ridges of rock which circle around the glacier and raises far above it over a mile distant. Ledges of barium from 10 to 12 feet wide are also found on these properties. The glacier matter being as heavy as galena and in many places carrying galena and copper. A tunnel has been started on the headlight to tap the vein of copper, and at the depth of about 15 feet the vein had widened to nearly three feet in width on the surface.

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Local Outcrops.

Staking has been good on Windermere lake for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pitt, of Windermere, visited friends in Canterbury on Sunday.

Chas. Cartwright, who has been staking with a gripe for two weeks, is still better now.

A chinook set in Thursday last and in a short time all the beautiful disappear from the valley.

F. A. Stoddard, while spending the winter in Toronto, writes friends here that he will return in April.

A social and entertainment will be given in aid of the Presbyterian church in about three weeks. A good program will be presented.

The new school is now ready for use

THE OUTCROP.

Published Every Thursday in the heart of a Wonderfully Rich Mineral and Agricultural District.

Subscription, - - - \$3.00 a Year.

W. P. EVANS, Promoter of Publicity, - - - Proprietor.

CANTERBURY, B.C., THURSDAY, FEB. 21, 1901.

Why ship in hay from the Territories when thousands of tons go to waste annually right in this valley? We need more ranchers.

The B. C. Trade Budget is the name of a new, weekly journal devoted to the commercial interests of this Province, published in Vancouver.

The Windermere division is destined to be a wonderfully rich one, and from the many enquiries already being made concerning our mineral wealth this year will witness great advances in development.

It would be policy for the government to legislate so small towns might incorporate as towns and villages as is the case in Ontario. There are many small places that would be benefited by such enactment.

The Provincial Legislature meets at Victoria today. There will be many subjects of vital importance concerning the province brought up at this session. This district will no doubt receive the attention it so much merits in roads, trails, etc., etc.

British Columbia seems to be fairly well before the public in London, judging by a recent issue of the Financial Times. Besides the quotations of British Columbia shares, there were five other articles, some of them quite lengthy, referring to affairs of this Province, including a summary of our mineral output and an editorial on the purchase of the C.P.R. shares by the C.P.R. The fact that a large financial paper in London should pay so much attention to affairs of this Province, proves that this Province is attracting a good deal of attention in the world's metropolis.

If it were possible to adopt some system of county boundaries for the maintenance and building of roads and trails, much of the present dilatoriness in that line throughout the mining districts could be done away with, says the Silvertonian. The system of sending all monies collected in taxes and licences to Victoria and distributing it from there leaves room for too many leaks. If the present mining divisions were allowed to expend a portion of the monies collected within their boundaries for road building, and a board of commissioners elected to look after such expenditures, much more value for the money would be received than by the present system of spending money where the "pull" is strongest.

Col. Topping, the well-known mining man of the Kootenays, expresses himself as under on this much vexed question in the B. C. Mining Exchange: "I know that several members of the Government have expressed sentiments in favor of the imposition of higher duties on manufactured articles of lead. This accomplished we are assured of a refinery, paint works, etc., with the accompanying pay roll. Today the lead mine owner, when selling his ore to the smelter, has, beside the cost of reduction, to pay the United States duties on lead bullion costing him altogether from \$14 to \$30 per ton, according to the percentage of lead contained in the ore. Now, under what we hope to achieve, i.e., to be able to supply Canada with paints, lead pipe, litharge, etc., from lead mined, smelted and manufactured in Canada, this money now paid to the United States would stay in the country, as there would be no necessity for either ore or bullion to be sent out of the Dominion, unless the greater value received should stimulate lead mining to such an extent that we should have to seek foreign markets."

The Manitoba dairymen are asking their government to assist them in capturing the British Columbia market from the Territories and the Victoria Colonist very aptly remarks: "In a province like this, with ideal conditions for carrying on dairying, we should not be obliged to go outside for our butter and cheese. In the last few years there has been an improvement in this direction, but the farmers should be up and doing to secure this market for themselves. There is far too much money going out of the province for food products that can be raised at home with profit." It is really surprisingly strange the amount of farm products that are brought into this particular section of the province. There are as good opportunities in this valley for practical farming as any where, and as to comparison with Manitoba or the Territories there is none. The climate is better and the products fresh and free from injury caused by much handling. For every pound of butter manufactured here a premium can be demanded over that shipped in. Land we have in plenty and we see no good reason why all products should not be furnished by local farmers. We would invite the Manitoba farmers to come here and supply the market, where they can at all times obtain good prices.

C.P.R. Lands

This Company now offer for sale their lands along the Columbia River and lakes in blocks of 160 acres and upwards.

These lands have been carefully selected and comprise some of the best agricultural and grazing locations in the district. Prices from \$1.00 to \$5.00 per acre on easy terms, a cash payment of only \$120.00 on 160 acres at \$5.00 and the subsequent annual payments of \$100.00 each including interest. For maps and terms apply to:-

R. R. BRUCE,
Peterborough, B. C.
F. T. GRIFFIN,
Land Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Man.

The Outcrop job department is replete in every particular and turns out first class work. Send along your letterheads, billboards, envelopes, business cards, etc., and we will give you good work at reasonable prices.

Hello Central!! General Goods

at W. S. SANTO & COMPANY'S

We being in the lead of every Line and having the Largest Stock in the Valley to select from and Low Down Prices enables us to present all our Friends and Customers to all the going Festivities of

The Season

A choice Selection of Chinese Goods consisting of Rugs, Silk Handkerchiefs, Slippers, Vases, and Chinese Lanterns.

Fruits,

Candies and

Nuts.

Turkeys, Boots, Hats, Clothing, Hardware, Geese, Shoes, Caps, Dry Goods, Tinware, Ducks, Fancy Moccasins, Gloves, Gents' Furnishings, All Other Ware.

FINE TEES AND COFFEES A SPECIALITY.

Groceries and Provisions Galore!

Our Large Store are filled with everything needed in making your Home Happy and Comfortable.

Wishing you all a prosperous New Year, We Remain,

Yours Very Truly,

W. S. SANTO & CO., Peterborough, B. C.

Union Hotel,

PETERBOROUGH, B.C.

Headquarters for

Travellers,
Prospectors
and Mining Men.

WM. A. SKELTON, PROPRIETOR.

New Canned Goods.

Aylmer Brand--THE BEST

Packed in Canada.

One Car Just Received Direct from Factory.

T. & P. Pennsylvania Coal Oil--The Highest Grade on the Market. A Carload in the Warehouse.

Oats, Chop, Bran, Shorts, Wheat for Chicken Feed, and National Rolled Oats. One Carload now in Stock.

Lake of the Woods Flour--The finest You Can Get. A Carload to go on with.

One Carload of Assorted Groceries, including the Best Quality of Everything.

H. G. PARSON,
GENERAL MERCHANT,
Golden, B.C.

G. W. F. CARTER, B.C.L.,

NOTARY PUBLIC:

For the Province of British Columbia.

REAL ESTATE AND MINING BROKER

Deeds, Conveyances, Mortgages and all other Legal Documents Drawn and Attested.

Accounts Collected. Commercial Books Kept and Audited.

Mining Properties Sold.

Correspondence Solicited.

Post Office address:
WINDELMERE and CANTERBURY, B. C.

Lake View Hotel,

Atholmer, B.C.

Headquarters for

Travellers,

Mining Men

and Prospectors.

Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

Free Pasture.

Pack and Saddle Horses for Sale or Hire.

CHAS. CARTWRIGHT.

Kootenay House.

J. G. ULLOCK,
Proprietor.

First-Class in every particular.
Rates Reasonable.

Convenient

to

Railway

Depot

and

Steamboat

Landing

Headquarters for Commercial
and Mining Men.
GOLDEN, B. C.
East Kootenay.

Mail

Orders Solicited
and receive personal
attention.

TOILET MANICURE TRAVELING
SETS AND CASES,
MIRRORS,
WRITING CASES, ETC.
Too numerous to even mention.

Beautiful Presents

- Can be had at -

FIELD'S,
The Druggist,
Golden.

Stock Taking Sale

Big Bargains for Cash in

Clothing,
Boots & Shoes,
Fancy Goods.

Few Pieces of Dry Goods going below cost.

Winter Goods in all Lines at Very Low
Figures at

C. A. WARREN'S,

East Kootenay, GOLDEN, B. C.

THE OUTCROP.

published every Thursday.

A weekly Journal published every Thursday in the interests of North East Kootenay District making close connection with all mails.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. \$1.00 per year in advance; foreign countries \$1.20.

ADVERTISING RATES. Display ads. \$1.00 per column inch per month. News items 10c per line. Legal and local ads 25 cents per line. Post insertion and 10 cents for each subsequent insertion.

Change of advertisement must be in this office not later than Monday.

Birth, marriage and death notices inserted free.

FOR DEPARTMENT: Our Job Department is the best equipped printing office in East Kootenay and is prepared to do neat, artistic printing at a reasonable price. One price mail. Mail orders require prompt attention.

CORRESPONDENTS: We invite correspondence on any subject of interest to the general public and desire a regular correspondence at every point in the district. In all cases the name of the writer must accompany the manuscript, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Correspondence with reference to any matter that has appeared in another paper must first be referred to that paper for publication before it can appear in The Outcrop.

TO THE LOSER.

So you've lost your race, lad?
Run it clean and fast?
Beaten at the lap, lad?
Tough? Yes, but 'tis past,
Never mind the losing—
Think of how you ran;
Smile and shut your teeth, lad—
Take it like a man!

Not the winning count, lad,
But the winning fact;
Not the losing shame, lad,
But the weak despair;
So, when failure stuns you,
Don't forget your plan—
Smile, and shut your teeth, lad—
Take it like a man!

Diamonds turn to dust, lad?
Night instead of morn?
Where you'd pluck a rose, lad,
Off you grasp a thorn!
Time will heal the bleeding—
Life is but a span;
Smile, and shut your teeth, lad—
Take it like a man.

Then, when sunset comes, lad,
When your fighting's through,
And the silent guest, lad,
Fills his cup for you,
Shrink not—clasp it coolly—
End as you began;
Smile, and close your eyes, lad,
And I take it like a man!

—C. F. Lester.

There are many people in the valley who, when they want any dry goods, groceries, or something else, send orders to firms at a distance in order to save a few cents in their trade or otherwise. People who follow these tactics do not help much to build up a new country and generally find that the rule works more ways than one.

British Columbia fishermen got \$5, 214,074 out of salmon last year. The amount which British Columbia 'mines' got out of a humbler variety of fish has not yet been reduced to figures.—Toronto Telegram.

Little Bo-Keep, she lost her sheep
And failed to advertise;
The result, of course, was much remorse
And terribly saddened eyes.

High grade job work is executed at the printer's office. Prices reasonably. Try a specimen.

ROBERT ELLIOTT, M.D.,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

PETERBOROUGH, East Kootenay, British Columbia.

E. J. SCOYIL, J. P.,

NOTARY PUBLIC.

Deeds, Conveyances, Mortgages and all other legal documents drawn and attested.

Accounts Collected, Books Audited.

Real Estate and Windermere Mines.

Fire, Life, Accident Insurance.

PETERBOROUGH, British Columbia.

NOTICE.

C.P.R. LANDS.

Parties cutting timber for wood on the lands of this Company without authority will be prosecuted.

H. B. BRUCE, Local Agent, Peterborough, B.C.
E. T. GRIFFIN, Local Commissioner, Winnipeg, Man.

HUGH MACDONALD,

BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC.

PETERBOROUGH, North East Kootenay, British Columbia.

THOMAS O'BRIEN,

BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC, CONVEYANCER, ETC.

Office in Upper Columbia Navigation & Tramway Company's Building, East Kootenay, GOLDEN, B.C.

Subscribe for The Outcrop.

C. F. NICHOLSON,

Of Kingston School of Mines, ASSAYER and ANALYTICAL CHEMIST.

Minerals identified for prospectors without charge.

Three years' experience in Kootenay district.

General and special information furnished parties concerning the Windermere District.

Mining Properties Examined and Reported upon.

Prospectors and others are requested to bring in samples for our analysis of mineral of the district.

Office Peterborough Townsite Co.'s Building, PETERBOROUGH, East Kootenay, British Columbia.

COLUMBIA HOUSE

GOLDEN, B. C.

WM. McNEISH, Proprietor.

The Leading Hotel in Golden. Headquarters for Mining and Commercial Men.

HOT AND COLD BATHS.

Choice of Liquors and Cigars.

The Most Complete Health Resort on the Continent of North America. Situated amidst scenery unrivalled for grandeur.

Haleyon Hot Springs Sanitarium.

Haleyon Springs, Arrow Lake, B. C.

Telegraphic communication with all parts of the world. Two meals served and depart daily.

Terms: \$10 to \$15 per week, according to residence in Hotel or Village.

In Hotel there are 8 rooms and 12 private houses. In Village there are 10 houses, 1000 ft. above sea level. The Hotel is a fine example of modern architecture and is well equipped for guests.

Best Accommodation

— IN —

Windermere District


Stages meet all boats.

Windermere Hotel

J. A. STODDART,

Finest Liquors and Cigars.

Windermere, B. C.



Athalmer House,

FRANK DARGIS, Prop.

First-class accommodation for

Tarvellers,
Mining Men
and
Prospectors.

Finest Brands of Liquors and Cigars

Saddle and Pack Horses for Hire.

Free pasture for those who wish to leave their horses whilst going into the hills or staying in town.

Experienced packers provided on shortest notice to accompany mining men or tourists to any point in the district.

Athalmer, B. C.

North East Kootenay.

THE HOTEL CANTERBURY,

H. G. GORDON, Prop.,

Canterbury, B. C.

Largest and Most Complete Hotel in the

Windermere District.

ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES.

Sample Rooms for Commercial Men.

Headquarters for Mining Men.

Pack and Saddle Horses for Sale or Hire.

The Mining center of the WINDERMERE DIVISION IS CANTERBURY

Being beautifully situated on the Lake and stretching back to Toby Creek it is the

Most Picturesque Spot in British Columbia.

CANTERBURY.

All Roads and Trails lead to

CANTERBURY.

Choice Lots from

\$40 to \$150.

T.T. LE PERFECT.

Townsite Crown Granted and Registered.

The Canterbury Townsite Co.,

Limited,

CANTERBURY, North East Kootenay, B. C.

The Blackguard

A Trail Blazer Story of Life in This Valley.
CHAPTER XV.

Since the Blackguard's time had nearly expired, the Colonel sent for him.

"Sit down, La Mancha, I want a few words with you."

"Thank you, sir." The Blackguard removed his forage cap, and sat down on a camp stool just within the tent.

"The sergeant-major tells me that you do not wish to take on again. We have served together for some years now, La Mancha."

"And I'll be good years they were, sir."

"The Colonel smiled. 'Well, I don't grieve them—' he had a good mistress to serve, besides fine work to do for her, looking in this rough young country; but perhaps it's just as well to think of the future."

"I hear, sir, you've bought a big ranch near McLeod."

"Yes, I hope to serve as a citizen for the rest of my time. If ever you come that way I can promise you a welcome."

"Thank you, Colonel, I shall remember that."

"You see, La Mancha, all my best men have left me one by one. Two of them fighting the rebellion, one shot him a bit, Peter died of mountain fever at Battleford, Buster Joe is ranching in Montana, James the Lexa writes to me from London, where he is doing well, and—but you know, one can't take such an interest in the recruits—these fellows, you call them, and so forth; and now that things are settling down, we're not so necessary as we were. New time, new manners—I don't blame you for taking your freedom. What are your plans, La Mancha?"

"First, I'm going to marry."

"Indeed?"

"Yes, sir, the Barrows girl, up at the Thorne. At first I hoped to do something at breaking horses, then take land down the valley. Her life won't be rougher than it is now."

The Colonel smiled, because at last he knew the secret of La Mancha's reformation.

"May I congratulate you? I do most heartily, for I'm told that she's the sweetest and prettiest girl in Kootenay."

"Will you come to the wedding, sir, on the twenty-fifth, at the Mission? The Padre says he'll be ready for me at noon."

"I would like to come very much," said the Colonel; "but among other details—mind I know you well—have you the young lady's consent?"

"She says I'm not half good enough for her—that looks all right, sir—oh."

The Colonel laughed. "I'll be there if I can."

"And give the bride away, sir?"

"But how about Barrows?"

"Hang Barrows—he'll have to take a back seat."

"One thing more, La Mancha. In this particularly risky business has it occurred to you that you ought to have steady employment?"

"I'll have to turn 'road-agent' otherwise."

"Rather than that, I'll give you a note to my friend General Buxton, who, I know, is looking out for a good man. Take down and see tomorrow, and while you're about it take a two weeks' furlough up to the date of your discharge. Why, that's the twenty-fifth, your wedding day."

"It's awfully good of you, sir."

"Don't mention it. I'll send you the letter by the Orderly Corporal. Ask him to step this way."

"Oh, you poor devil," said the Blackguard, lying at ease on his blankets, to a half-dozen at work in the tent cleaning their accoutrements for tomorrow's parade. "Sweet, you poor wacker, ram your buttocks down your throat for coarseness."

One of the boys heaved a loud breath at him, which he caught deftly. "Now I'm richer," he said, "by a brush. Gentlemen, this brush of solid squat root, bottled out of work in the tent cleaning their accoutrements for tomorrow's parade. 'Sweet, you poor wacker, ram your buttocks down your throat for coarseness.'"

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He sat down beside the little Corporal.

"Did the Colonel give you a letter for me?"

"Yes—here it is. You have two weeks' leave from tonight."

La Mancha told him all that the Colonel had said.

"You're in luck, old chap."

"Now, don't you get mawkish, said the Blackguard roughly. 'The Colonel was but enough, but I won't stand any rot from you. I'm as weak as a kitten, and all my bones feel sick. Come over to the lines—I'm going to take my horse there for two weeks, whether they like it or not.'"

"There'll be an awful row," said Dandy anxiously.

"So much the better. Trouble and I are twins, but I'll have my horse."

"I guess I can stand the racket," said Dandy, as they walked to the lines.

The last post was sounding while La Mancha saddled, and in the midst of his work he turned on Dandy.

"Don't look at me like that! It's all your fault for making me turn respectable. It's against nature. What would the civilians think if all of you turned into brass-mounted saints like me? Why, there would be sending their nose into the Force for convent training, and adulterate the grandest cavalry in the world. 'There'—he looked his horse and flung himself into the saddle. 'Cut it short,' for Dandy could not let go his hand. 'Say good-bye to the boys for me. Good-night—good-bye, and be hanged to you.'"

So he rode out of the camp at a headlong gallop; but half a mile away drew rein, for "lights out" was sounding. He took off his hat, and brushed his sleeve across his eyes, because there seemed to be a mist between him and the tents, while through his mind there swept the music of an old-time song which belongs to the Mounted Police—

"The sentry challenged at the open gate, Who passed him by, because his hour was late—"

"Halt! Who goes there?—A friend!—"

"All's well."

"A friend, old chap!—a friend's farewell. And I'll pass'd the gate."

And then the long last notes were shed, The evening call's last notes were dead; And sounded sadly as I rode without Those last sad notes of all: 'Lights out! Lights out!'"

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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